

## SGCN and Habitat Stressors

### Level 1 Threat Invasive and Other Problematic Species, Genes and Diseases

### Level 2 Threat: Problematic Native Species-Diseases

**Description:** Harmful plants, animals, or pathogens and other microbes that are originally found within the ecosystem(s) in question, but have become “out-of-balance” or “released” directly or indirectly due to human activities

**Species Associated With This Stressor:** **Total SGCN: 1: 8 2: 15 3:**

| Class  | <i>Actinopterygii</i> (Ray-finned Fishes) | SGCN Category |
|--|---|---------------|
| Species: <i>Notropis bifrenatus</i> (Bridle Shiner)  |   | 2             |
| Severity: Severe   | Actionability: Actionable with difficulty |               |
| Notes: A poor competitor with many non-indigenous species that may be relatively recent additions to the local fish fauna - ex. Perches, chain pickerel, and others prone to consuming small sized fishes. |   |               |
| Species: <i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i> (Lake Whitefish)  |   | 2             |
| Severity: Severe   | Actionability: Actionable with difficulty |               |
| Notes: Poor competitors with large predatory fishes. SMT and LLS primarily.  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Esox americanus americanus</i> (Redfin Pickerel)   |   | 2             |
| Severity: Severe   | Actionability: Actionable with difficulty |               |
| Notes: RPK are poor competitors with large predatory fishes.   |   |               |
| Species: <i>Prosopium cylindraceum</i> (Round Whitefish)   |   | 2             |
| Severity: Severe   | Actionability: Actionable with difficulty |               |
| Notes: Poor competitors with large predatory fishes. SMT primarily.  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Etheostoma fusiforme</i> (Swamp Darter)  |   | 2             |
| Severity: Severe   | Actionability: Actionable with difficulty |               |
| Notes: Poor competitors with large predatory fishes.   |   |               |
| Class  | <i>Aves</i> (Birds)                       | SGCN Category |
| Species: <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> (Arctic Tern)  |   | 1             |
| Severity: Severe   | Actionability: Highly actionable          |               |
| Notes: Predation by large gulls  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Fratercula arctica</i> (Atlantic Puffin)   |   | 2             |
| Severity: Severe   | Actionability: Highly actionable          |               |
| Notes: Predation of eggs, chicks, and adults by large gulls  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i> (Blue-winged Warbler)   |   | 2             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Actionable with difficulty |               |
| Notes: Hybridization with Golden-winged Warbler either locally (occasionally) or historically by those colonizing habitats on the border with NH.  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Poecile hudsonicus</i> (Boreal Chickadee)  |   | 2             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Moderately actionable      |               |
| Notes: Spruce budworm: pre-emptive harvesting, reduction in # snags  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Sterna hirundo</i> (Common Tern)   |   | 2             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Highly actionable          |               |
| Notes: Egg and chick depredation by large gulls  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i> (Evening Grosbeak)  |   | 2             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Moderately actionable      |               |
| Notes: Control of Spruce Budworm reduces food available; failure to control results in long-term loss of habitat   |   |               |

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### Level 2 Threat: Problematic Native Species-Diseases

| Class  | Aves (Birds)                              | SGCN Category |
|--|---|---------------|
| Species: <i>Ardea herodias</i> (Great Blue Heron)  |   | 2             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Actionable with difficulty |               |
| Notes: Bald eagles increasingly known to discourage heron nesting in areas; also known to attack and kill juveniles and adults.                            |   |               |
| Species: <i>Ardea herodias</i> (Great Blue Heron)  |   | 2             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Moderately actionable      |               |
| Notes: Raccoons known to cause complete colony failure at individual colonies - may be a widespread issue; can prevent with predator guards on nest trees? |   |               |
| Species: <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> (Great Cormorant)  |   | 1             |
| Severity: Severe   | Actionability: Actionable with difficulty |               |
| Notes: Bald eagle predation may cause extirpation of this species in the very near future; intervention only practical on Seal Island NWR                  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Sternula antillarum</i> (Least Tern)   |   | 1             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Highly actionable          |               |
| Notes: Predation issues from native predators such as skunks, gulls and crows can be reversed using intensive predator control.                            |   |               |
| Species: <i>Charadrius melodus</i> (Piping Plover)   |   | 1             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Highly actionable          |               |
| Notes: Includes native predators such as skunks, gulls, and crows, intensive predator control can reverse impacts and increase productivity.               |   |               |
| Species: <i>Alca torda</i> (Razorbill)   |   | 2             |
| Severity: Severe   | Actionability: Highly actionable          |               |
| Notes: Predation of eggs, chicks, and adults by large gulls  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Sterna dougallii</i> (Roseate Tern)  |   | 1             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Highly actionable          |               |
| Notes: Egg and chick depredation by large gulls  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Euphagus carolinus</i> (Rusty Blackbird)   |   | 1             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Moderately actionable      |               |
| Notes: Temporary but extreme nest predation as function of cone cycle/red Squirrel numeric response  |   |               |
| Species: <i>Ammodramus caudacutus</i> (Saltmarsh Sparrow)  |   | 1             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Highly actionable          |               |
| Notes: Hybridizing with Nelson's Sparrow; may be expanding   |   |               |
| Species: <i>Oreothlypis peregrina</i> (Tennessee Warbler)  |   | 2             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Moderately actionable      |               |
| Notes: Control of spruce budworm may reduce population (prevent an increase); failure to control spruce budworm results in longterm loss of habitat        |   |               |

| Class  | Echinoidea (Sea Urchins)                  | SGCN Category |
|--|---|---------------|
| Species: <i>Strongylocentrotus droebachiensis</i> (Green Sea Urchin)   |   | 2             |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  | Actionability: Actionable with difficulty |               |
| Notes: It is possible (low certainty) that increasing temperatures in the Gulf of Maine will result in increasing incidence of disease, such as parasitic <i>Paramoeba</i> infestations that have plagued Nova Scotia, where water temperatures are generally warmer than the Gulf of Maine. |   |               |

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| Class  | <i>Mammalia</i> (Mammals) | SGCN Category                        |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Species: <i>Sylvilagus transitionalis</i> (New England Cottontail)   |                           | 1                                    |
| Severity: Moderate Severity  |                           | Actionability: Moderately actionable |
| Notes: High white-tailed deer densities have substantial effect on forest ecosystems. High browsing levels by deer can affect understory stem densities, forest structure, and select against plants that are preferred foods for herbivores. High densities of white-tailed deer were considered one of the factors threatening the habitat needed by New England cottontail in the Rangewide Conservation Strategy (p. 20) <a href="http://www.newenglandcottontail.org/sites/default/files/conservation_strategy_final_12-3-12.pdf">http://www.newenglandcottontail.org/sites/default/files/conservation_strategy_final_12-3-12.pdf</a> . |                           |                                      |

### Habitats Associated With This Stressor:

#### Macrogroup Boreal Upland Forest

**Habitat System Name:** Acadian Low Elevation Spruce-Fir-Hardwood Forest

**Notes:** Spruce budworm may alter forest conditions, spraying Bt may negatively impact some native Lepidoptera

**Habitat System Name:** Acadian Sub-boreal Spruce Flat

**Notes:** Spruce budworm may alter forest conditions, spraying Bt may negatively impact some native Lepidoptera

**Habitat System Name:** Acadian-Appalachian Montane Spr-Fir-Hwd Forest

**Notes:** Spruce budworm may alter forest conditions, spraying Bt may negatively impact some native Lepidoptera

**Habitat System Name:** Boreal Jack Pine-Black Spruce Forest

**Notes:** Spruce budworm may alter forest conditions, spraying Bt may negatively impact some native Lepidoptera

#### Macrogroup Central Hardwood Swamp

**Habitat System Name:** North-Central Interior Wet Flatwoods

**Notes:** Deer overpopulation in Southern Maine

#### Macrogroup Central Oak-Pine

**Habitat System Name:** Central Appalachian Dry Oak-Pine Forest

**Notes:** Deer overabundance, particularly under white pine canopies. 8.1 may be largely symptom of 8.2

**Habitat System Name:** Central Appalachian Pine-Oak Rocky Woodland

**Notes:** Deer overabundance, particularly under white pine canopies. 8.1 may be largely symptom of 8.2

**Habitat System Name:** North Atlantic Coastal Plain Hardwood Forest

**Notes:** Deer overabundance, particularly under white pine canopies. 8.1 may be largely symptom of 8.2

**Habitat System Name:** North Atlantic Coastal Plain Maritime Forest

**Notes:** Deer overabundance, particularly under white pine canopies. 8.1 may be largely symptom of 8.2

**Habitat System Name:** Northeastern Interior Pine Barrens

**Notes:** Deer overabundance, particularly under white pine canopies. 8.1 may be largely symptom of 8.2

#### Macrogroup Coastal Grassland & Shrubland

**Habitat System Name:** Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain Dune and Maritime Grassland

**Notes:** Subsidized predators including foxes, coyotes, gulls, impacting other species in coastal grassland environment.

**Habitat System Name:** Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain Sandy Beach

**Notes:** Subsidized predators including foxes, coyotes, gulls, impacting other species in coastal grassland environment.

#### Macrogroup Intertidal Tidal Marsh (peat-forming)

**Habitat System Name:** Acadian Coastal Salt Marsh

**Notes:** native predators benefitting from human presence, which cause problems for native birds & other spp.

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**Macrogroup** Intertidal Tidal Marsh (peat-forming)

**Habitat System Name:** Coastal Plain Tidal Marsh

**Notes:** native predators benefitting from human presence, which cause problems for native birds & other spp.

**Macrogroup** Northeastern Floodplain Forest

**Habitat System Name:** Laurentian-Acadian Floodplain Systems

**Notes:** Deer overpopulation in Southern Maine

**Macrogroup** Northern Swamp

**Habitat System Name:** Acadian-Appalachian Conifer Seepage Forest

**Notes:** Deer overpopulation in Southern Maine, beavers in northern ME

**Habitat System Name:** Laurentian-Acadian Alkaline Conifer-Hardwood Swamp

**Notes:** Deer overpopulation in Southern Maine, beavers in northern ME

**Habitat System Name:** North-Central Appalachian Acidic Swamp

**Notes:** Deer overpopulation in Southern Maine, beavers in northern ME

**Habitat System Name:** North-Central Interior and Appalachian Rich Swamp

**Notes:** Deer overpopulation in Southern Maine, beavers in northern ME

**Habitat System Name:** Northern Appalachian-Acadian Conifer-Hardwood Acidic Swamp

**Notes:** Deer overpopulation in Southern Maine, beavers in northern ME

**Macrogroup** Rocky Coast

**Habitat System Name:** Acadian-North Atlantic Rocky Coast

**Notes:** Introduced, native predators impacting sea-bird nesting sites

**Habitat System Name:** North Atlantic Cobble Shore

**Notes:** Introduced, native predators impacting sea-bird nesting sites

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*The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.*